

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY BISSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0101

UNCLAS BISSAU 0125

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PU

SUBJ: SUGGESTED REMARKS FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
OF AMBASSADOR WELLS IN BISSAU

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED SPEECH FOR FORMAL PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS IN BISSAU. IF PORTUGUESE TEXT IS PROVIDED, FRENCH TEXT WILL BE UNNECESSARY. SUGGEST AMBASSADOR BRING AT LEAST TWO EXTRA COPIES FOR PRESS.

2. QUOTE, MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS A GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT YOUR EXCELLENCY THE LETTERS WHICH ACCREDIT ME AS THE FIRST AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA BISSAU. IF I MAY BE PERMITTED A PERSONAL NOTE, IT IS A MEMORABLE DAY FOR ME IN MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT AS AN AMBASSADOR TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE HAPPY TASK OF TAKING THE FIRST STEPS TO INITIATE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL RELATIONS IN THIS YOUNG REPUBLIC. I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO FULFILL MY TASK HERE WITH THE SAME MEASURE OF DYNAMISM WITH WHICH I HAVE ALREADY NOTED YOUR GOVERNMENT APPROACHES ITS TASKS OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND THE STRUGGLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

ALTHOUGH TODAY MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY AND CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE OF GUINEA-BISSAU, WE KNOW EACH OTHER WELL THROUGH COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ALREADY BEGUN. GUINEA-BISSAU STUDENTS ARE STUDYING IN AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES ON U.S. SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS AND A TEAM FROM THE U.S.

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RECENTLY HELD SUCCESSFUL

DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT ON AN IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL PROJECT. I AM HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS GIVEN ITS APPROVAL TO THIS PROJECT AND I HOPE WE CAN MOVE QUICKLY TO THE FORMAL SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT. THE UNITED STATES PLANS TO INCREASE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA SUBSTANTIALLY OVER THE COMING YEARS PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, AND EDUCATION. WE ARE PREPARED TO HELP GUINEA-BISSAU IN THESE FIELDS. WE ARE AWARE THAT IT IS ECONOMIC PROGRESS WHICH ULTIMATELY WILL DETERMINE WHETHER AFRICA ITSELF CAN FULLFILL THE ASPIRATIONS OF ITS PEOPLES AND WE ARE READY TO WORK WITH YOU, HERE AND IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TOWARD THAT GOAL.

WE HAVE ALSO HAD CONSIDERABLE CONTACT ON THE POLITICAL LEVEL, AT THE UNITED NATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE AND IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. WE WILL NO DOUBT HAVE NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING THE WORLD TODAY AS THEY ARE DISCUSSED IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES OF WHICH BOTH OUR COUNTRIES OUR MEMBERS. I HOOK FORWARD TO THESE CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, BASED ON RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF SOVEREIGN EQUALITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT.

UNITED STATES INTEREST IN AFRICA IS ROOTED IN THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF 23 MILLION BLACK AMERICANS WHOSE AFFIRMATION OF EQUALITY AND RACIAL DIGNITY HAS COINCIDED WITH THE ASSERTION OF NATIONHOOD IN AFRICA. WE ARE COMPLETELY COMMITTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THESE HARD-WON CONCEPTS OF RACIAL EQUALITY AND DIGNITY IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE SAME WAY WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF HARD-WON AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE. WESTERN COLONIALISM IS DEAD IN AFRICA, IT MUST NOT BE REPLACED BY A NEW FORM OF EXTERNAL INTERVENTION MORE INSIDIOUS BECAUSE IT IS LESS FAMILIAR BUT WHICH IN THE END IS MORE DIFFICULT TO ROOT OUT. WE SEEK NO BLOCS OF OUR OWN OR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE IN AFRICA. WE RESPECTTRUE NON-ALIGNMENT.

MR. PRESIDENT, MAY I THANK YOU FOR THE WARM WELCOME YOU HAVE EXTENDED ME AND FOR THE ASSISTANCE YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS RENDERED THE NEW AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BISSAU DURING ITS FIRST FEW MONTHS. WITH YOUR PERSONAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, I HOPE TO FAITHFULLY FULLFILL THE IMPORTANT TASK ENTRUSTED TO
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ME OF REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN IN
GUINEA-BISSAU.
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